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YUKON
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT
PROJECTS

Yukon
Department of Renewable Resources
Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6

YUKON WILDLIFE

MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

1984

Government of Yukon

Department of Renewable Resources

Box 2703

Whitehorse, Yukon

Y1A 2C6

Hon. Howard Tracey, Minister

YUKON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

These summary sheets are designed to give persons within the Government of Yukon and others with a direct interest in wildlife management in Yukon, an overview of where effort is being directed by staff of the Department of Renewable Resources. The problems being addressed, methods applied, and areas of the Yukon where work is being conducted are emphasized. All wildlife projects will result in written reports upon completion and most produce interim reports annually.

The projects fall into broader areas of concern as follows:

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SHEEP AND GOAT MANAGEMENT

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YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Sheep/Goat Management

NEW X CONTINUING ____ SINCE ____

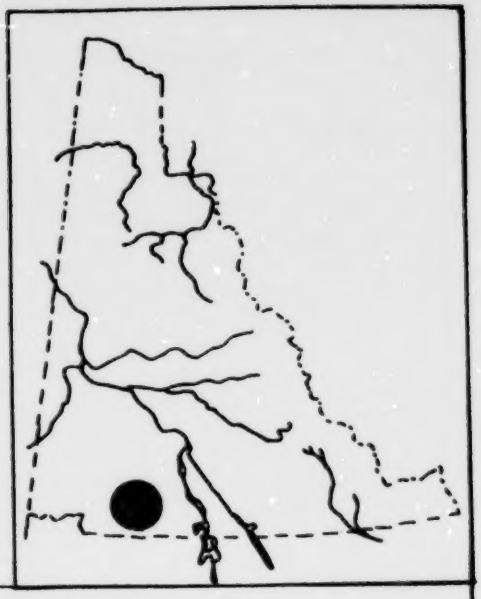
LOCATION: DISTRICT Whitehorse

GMZ 7

Dates of Field Work May-June/84.

Project Leader N. Barichello

Assistance H. McLeod



PROJECT TITLE Sheep Lambing Study

PURPOSE (Problem)

For the last 2 years Dall sheep lamb crops have been very low. Winter weather conditions, golden eagles and wolves have all been implicated. Most studies have found sheep pregnancy rates to be high with lamb losses to occur either late in pregnancy, still borns, or very early in life. As a follow-up to a winter wolf-sheep study, an investigation of sheep lambing will be made to evaluate lamb production and survival.

OBJECTIVES

To determine the significance and causes of early lamb mortality.

COOPERATING AGENCIES NA

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

Sheep will be observed on a lambing cliff during and following parturition in the Rose Lake area. Spot checks will be made at 15 minute intervals during an extended observation period. Sheep will be counted and classified, their locations mapped, and described, and their activities recorded. Special attention will be given to lambs and encounters with potential predators.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $5 thousand

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT NA

Report for Current Year Due: February, 1985

Final Report Due: February, 1986

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Sheep/Goat Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING X SINCE ____

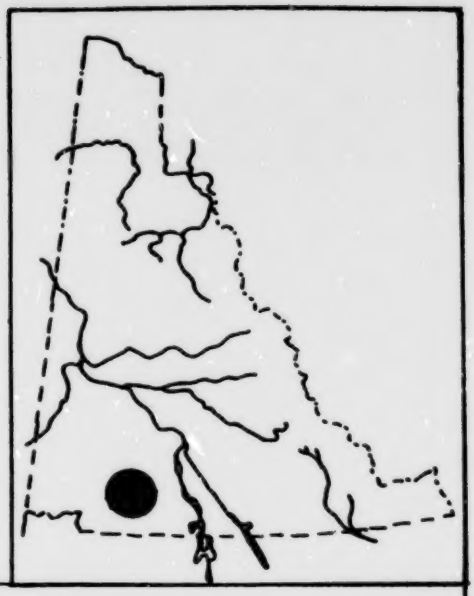
LOCATION: DISTRICT Whitehorse

GMZ 7

Dates of Field Work July

Project Leader N. Barichello

Assistance H. McLeod
R. Hayes



PROJECT TITLE Sheep-Wolf Study

PURPOSE (Problem)

Winter mortality remains one of the biggest gaps in our understanding of sheep ecology. Preliminary wolf work suggests that wolves may be important Dall sheep predators, particularly in late winter. As part of a wolf removal scheme, wolves in one area were all but eradicated while wolves in an adjacent area were left intact. If wolves are important predators on Dall sheep there should be a measurable difference in the sheep demography in the two areas, both in the total count as well as the productivity.

OBJECTIVES

To determine the effect of wolf removal on sheep demography and productivity.

COOPERATING AGENCIES Foundation for N.A. Wild Sheep

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

Sheep will be counted and classified in one area where wolves have been removed and in an adjacent control area. Surveys will be done in July with a 206B Helicopter. If necessary classification of sheep will be carried out on the ground during the survey.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $8 thousand

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Progress Report - April, 1984

"Wolf-Dall sheep relationships in the Southern Yukon: a pilot study"

Report for Current Year Due: February, 1985

Final Report Due: February, 1986

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Sheep/Goat Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING x SINCE 1983

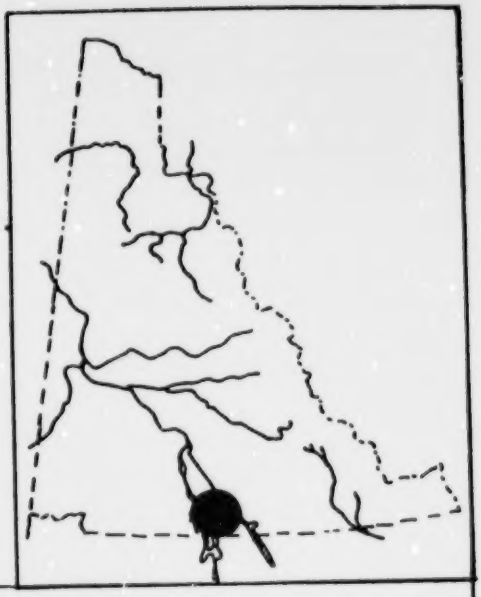
LOCATION: DISTRICT Watson Lk. or Haines Jct.

GMZ 11 or 6

Dates of Field Work 15-17 July

Project Leader N. Barichello

Assistance Casual technician



PROJECT TITLE Goat Reintroduction

PURPOSE (Problem)

Six mountain goats were reintroduced to Mt. White near Jakes Corner in August, 1983. In order to increase the probability of goats reestablishing to historic levels on Mt. White an additional 6 goats will be released on the mountain.

OBJECTIVES

Live capture 6 goats, according to the 1983 procedure from either the Kluane Range south of Dezadeash or from the Logan Mountains north of Watson Lake.

COOPERATING AGENCIES No

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

Six goats will be net gunned from a helicopter, crated and slung to awaiting trucks and driven to Mt. White site where they will be released. A veterinarian will assist to minimize the potential of trauma related disorders.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $10 thousand

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Unpublished report presented to the NA Wild Sheep and Goat Conference. "Mt. Goat relocation to Mt. White"

Report for Current Year Due: NA

Final Report Due: March, 1985

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Sheep/Goat Management

NEW X CONTINUING ____ SINCE ____

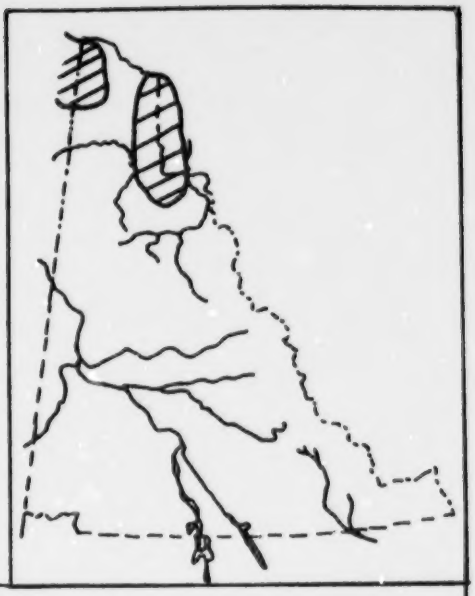
LOCATION: DISTRICT Dawson

GMZ 1

Dates of Field Work 1-15 June

Project Leader N. Barichello

Assistance Casual technician



PROJECT TITLE Sheep Inventory, Northern Yukon

PURPOSE (Problem)

As a response to the proposed oil and gas development on the Beaufort Sea and the construction of a haul road from the coast to the Dempster Highway, a proposal was made to the federal government to investigate a northern population of sheep. It has been suggested by biologists in the NWT that sheep in the northern Richardson have seriously declined since early 70's. Sheep numbers are currently unknown, and seasonal distribution has not been well established on the Yukon side.

OBJECTIVES

Count and classifiy sheep in the northern Yukon, and determine their summer distribution.

COOPERATING AGENCIES N.W.T. Government, Polar Continental Shelf, NOGAP

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

Periodic helicopter surveys will be carried out in conjunction with ground classification counts of the Northern Richardson Mountains and the British Mountains in the northern Yukon.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $2 thousand

COOPERATORS: will supply helicopter time

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

NA

Report for Current Year Due: March, 1985

Final Report Due: March, 1987

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Sheep/ Goat Management

NEW _____ CONTINUING X SINCE 1979

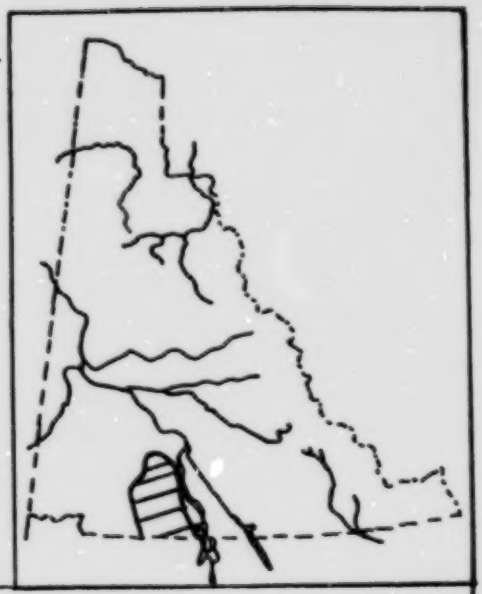
LOCATION: DISTRICT Whitehorse

GMZ 7

Dates of Field Work July

Project Leader N. Barichello

Assistance Casual technician



PROJECT TITLE Evaluation of the Sheep Permit Hunt

PURPOSE (Problem)

A Dall sheep permit hunt was established in 1979 in order to allow residents a quality hunt. Public opinion has voiced some uncertainty about it's effectiveness, both in producing full curl trophy rams and maintaining population vigor. Dall sheep have been surveyed since 1979, in four game management subzones to compare sheep demography of a restricted permit-hunted population to a population restricted only by full curl regulations. It is recommended that this be continued.

OBJECTIVES

Compare sheep demography from 4 populations, 1 in the permit area, 2 in an open area and in a no-hunting area.

COOPERATING AGENCIES NA

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

Carry out helicopter surveys in July on the 4 mountain blocks, to count, and classify sheep and to determine their distribution.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $10 thousand

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Paper to the NA Wild Sheep and Goat Conference.
"An evaluation of Permit Hunting in the Southern Yukon"

Report for Current Year Due: March, 1985

Final Report Due: NA

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Sheep/Goat Management

NEW X CONTINUING ____ SINCE ____

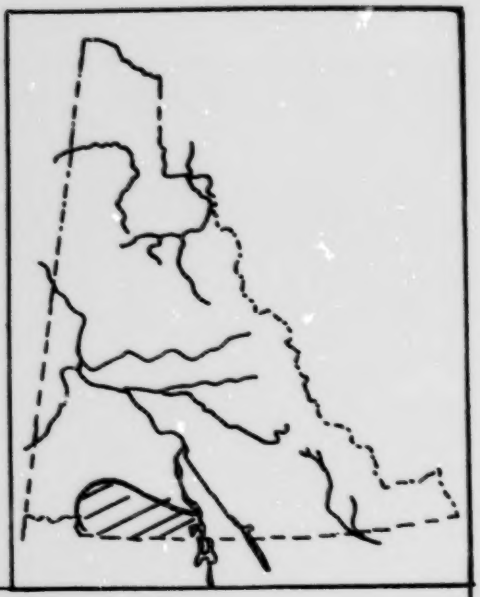
LOCATION: DISTRICT Whitehorse

GMZ 7

Dates of Field Work July

Project Leader N. Barichello

Assistance Casual technician



PROJECT TITLE Mountain Goat Inventory

PURPOSE (Problem)

Mountain goats in GMZ 7 were closed to hunting in 1978 to allow population levels to recover. An assessment of the goat population is needed. both to evaluate the effect of the closure as well as to determine safe harvest levels, so as to again open to limited goat hunting.

OBJECTIVES

Inventory mountain goat in the south end of GMZ 7.

COOPERATING AGENCIES NA

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

Carry out helicopter surveys in part of GMZ 7 to count goats, determine productivity and delineate their distribution.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $8 thousand

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT
NA

Report for Current Year Due:

Final Report Due: November, 1984

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YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Moose Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING x SINCE 1981

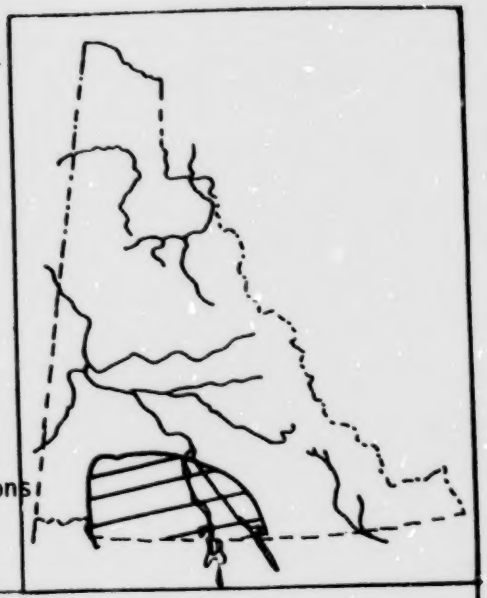
LOCATION: DISTRICT Whitehorse

GMZ 5, 7 and 9

Dates of Field Work October-December

Project Leader D. Larsen

Assistance R. Markel
-6-12 casual or contract postions



PROJECT TITLE Moose Inventory

PURPOSE (Problem)

The inventory data is used to monitor the population dynamics of moose in the southern Yukon, particularly in the predator control areas. Composition data collected on the fall surveys compliments the calf survival data collected on the calf mortality study. Likewise, this information will be used to assess the response of moose calf survival to different levels and types of predator control.

OBJECTIVES

Determine population density and composition of moose in subareas of GMZ 5, 7 and 9, through aerial survey techniques.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

Survey subareas within each of the predator control prescription areas using a stratified, random block aerial sampling technique. Areas to be surveyed include GMS 5-33 through 5-41, 7-01 through 7-06, 7-13 through 7-26, 9-01 through 9-03, 9-09 through 9-11.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $127 thousand

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

1. Moose inventory in the S. W. Yukon-Alces 18
2. Study areas 5 and 7 moose surveys 1982 - Y.T.G. files
3. Population Dynamics and early winter habitat utilization by moose (alces alces) in the S.W. Yukon Territory - Y.T.G. files
4. Moose survey results from the S.W. Yukon 1983 -YTG files

Report for Current Year Due: April 1985

Final Report Due: April 1985

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Moose Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING X SINCE 1983

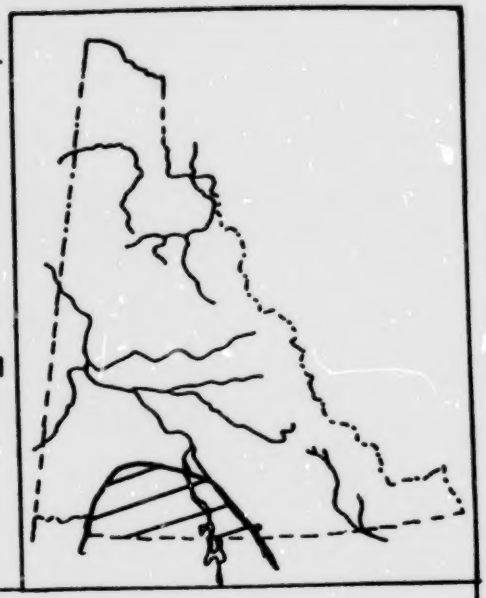
LOCATION: DISTRICT ____

GMZ 7 and 9

Dates of Field Work intensive - May-July
periodically - Aug.-April

Project Leader D. Larsen

Assistance R. Markel
P. Dennison
H. Slama



PROJECT TITLE Moose calf and cow mortality studies

PURPOSE (Problem)

Composition data from fall surveys since 1981 have indicated poor calf survival to 6 months of age. A calf mortality study was initiated in selected areas of GMZ 7 and 9 in 1983 to determine the cause and to verify the extent of this mortality. In 1984 the mortality study will be expanded to include all of GMZ's 7 and 9. Calf survival will be monitored through radio collared cows as opposed to collaring calves. Therefore the timing and extent of calf mortality will be assessed over a wider area compared to 1983. Likewise cow survival rates and timing of mortality will be documented over more extensive areas. In addition the cause of cow mortality will be determined through radio telemetry. The survival information on both cohorts will be reviewed in light of the type and magnitude of predator control by localized study areas.

OBJECTIVES

- determine the timing and extent of calf mortality in GMZ 7 and 9.
- determine the timing, extend and cause of cow mortality in GMZ 7 and 9.
-determine habitat utilization of collared cows throughout the year.
- determine movement patterns of collared moose throughout the year.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

Monitor approximately 120 collared cows between Haines Junction and Teslin periodically over the next year. Intensive (weekly) surveys would be flown during the calving and post calving periods to determine the extent and timing of calf mortality.

BUDGET (Operational) **YTG:** $97 thousand

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

1. Causes and Rate of Moose (Alces alces) calf and adult female mortality in the Southern Yukon Territory. In preparation.

Report for Current Year Due: April 1, 1985

Final Report Due: on going (annual reports)

CARIBOU MANAGEMENT

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YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Caribou Management

NEW X CONTINUING ____ SINCE ____

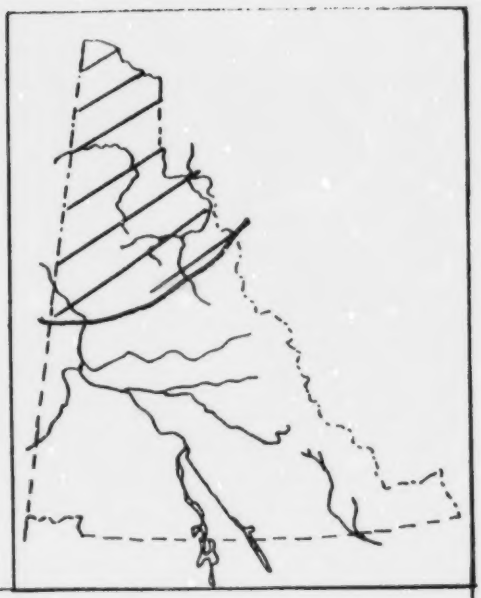
LOCATION: DISTRICT Dawson City

GMZ 1 & 2

Dates of Field Work October 1984

Project Leader R. Farnell

Assistance J. McDonald



PROJECT TITLE Rut composition Porcupine Caribou Herd

PURPOSE (Problem)

In order to assess status of the Porcupine Caribou Herd, it is essential to periodically measure the age composition of the herd. This measure details the rate at which the herd is replacing mortality and hence how well it will maintain numbers.

OBJECTIVES

Simultaneously conduct counts across herd rutting distribution in both Yukon and Alaska in concert with A.D.F. & G. biologists.

COOPERATING AGENCIES A.D.F. & G., N.O.G.A.P.

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

October - Rut count

BUDGET (Operational) **YTG:**

COOPERATORS: NOGAP $30,000.00

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Report for Current Year Due: Status Report Winter 1984-85

Final Report Due:

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Caribou Management

NEW _____ CONTINUING X SINCE _____

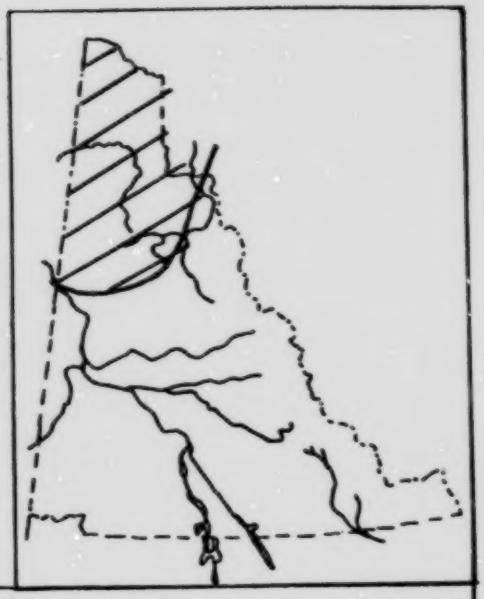
LOCATION: DISTRICT Dawson City

GMZ 1 and 2

Dates of Field Work April 1984

Project Leader R. Farnell

Assistance G. Lortie



PROJECT TITLE Calf mortality in Porcupine Caribou Herd (PCH)

PURPOSE (Problem)

To recollar calves previously marked on calving grounds by U.S.F. and W. This is necessary to determine mortality cause and rate of juvenile PCH caribou. A research project initiated by A.D.F.& G. and U.S.F. & W.

OBJECTIVES

1. Relocate radio-collared calves in Yukon distribution of PCH.
2. Capture and recollar with new transmitters using net gun methods.

COOPERATING AGENCIES U.S.F.& W., C.W.S., Polar Shelf

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

April - Relocations, capture and calving providing equipment and personnel

Polar Shelf - helicopter

C.W.S. - personnel

U.S.F. & W. - major funding

BUDGET (Operational) **YTG:** $2,000.00

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Report for Current Year Due:

Final Report Due:

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Caribou

NEW _____ CONTINUING X SINCE March 82

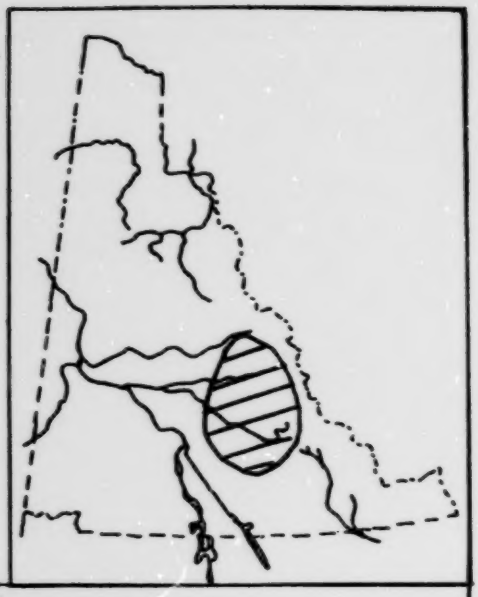
LOCATION: DISTRICT Ross River

GMZ 10 & 11

Dates of Field Work all year

Project Leader R. Farnell

Assistance J. McDonald
K. Gustafson
B. Tokarek



PROJECT TITLE Finlayson Caribou Management

PURPOSE (Problem)

Investigations employing radio-telemetry techniques have found the Finlayson Caribou Herd (FCH), numbering 2,000 to 2,500 to be declining. The cause is thought to be intensive hunting pressure (est. 200 to 250) in the face of high natural mortality rates. Fall 1982 calf production (9.7%) and yearling recruitment (4.5%) were too low to sustain this population. These factors are aggrevated by the potential for hydroelectric and industrial land use development in the area. The FCH is providing a great deal of economic benefit to five major Yukon communities.

OBJECTIVES

Efforts to rehabilitate the herd are: 1) cow caribou season closure to sport hunters, 2) wolf control for three years, 3) consultation with native groups to reduce harvest. In addition baseline habitat and range use behaviour information is being collected to provide input into regional development decisions and plans. A considerable amount of research data concerning predator-prey relationships and caribou management methods are being collected.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

April - Native harvest assessment

June - Calving surveys

July - Post-calving composition counts

October - Rut composition count and census

March - Late winter distribution
Overwinter calf count
Snow survey
Fecal sample collection
Wolf density estimate
Wolf removals

BUDGET (Operational) **YTG:** $50,000

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Interim Report October 1982

Interim Report October 1983 (draft)

Report for Current Year Due: Interim Report October 1984

Final Report Due: March 1987

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Caribou Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING X SINCE ____

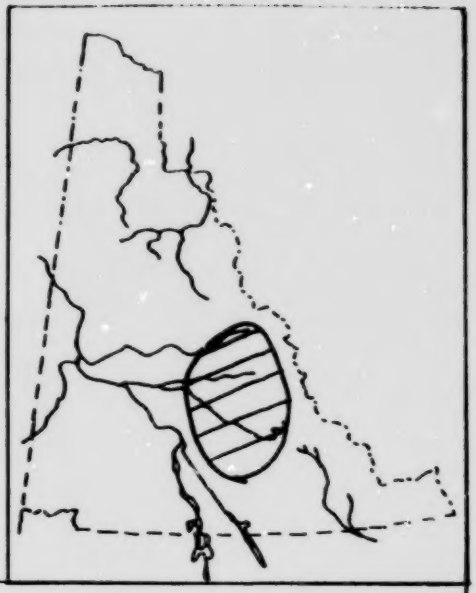
LOCATION: DISTRICT Ross River

GMZ 10 & 11

Dates of Field Work Nov. to March 84-85

Project Leader R. Farnell

Assistance J. McDonald
K. Gustafson
B. Tokarek



PROJECT TITLE Finlayson Predator Management

PURPOSE (Problem)

A wolf reduction has been deemed necessary to contribute to the rehabilitation of the Finlayson Caribou Herd (FCH). Boundaries for these removals comprise the 7300 square mile home range of the FCH. 105 wolves (+50%) were removed in 1983. 32 moose and caribou kill sites were documented and kill specimens were collected.

OBJECTIVES

1. Determine the approximate density of wolves through tracking counts, and remove +50% using aerial hunting techniques.
2. Necropsy wolves and assess impact of removals on the wolf population.
3. Capture and radiocollar wolves to assist removal efforts.
4. Concentrate removals on caribou winter range and adjacent to known caribou calving grounds.
5. Collect wolf kill ungulate specimens for age and condition study of prey selected.

COOPERATING AGENCIES Foundation for North American Wild Sheep

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

November to March - Live capture and radio collar using snaring methods, targeted at parks ranging in dense forest habitats.

February to March - Remove +50% wolves using helicopter and scouting airplane, determine density and collect kill site data. Necropsy

April - Market furs

BUDGET (Operational) **YTG:** $18,000.00

COOPERATORS: $25,000.00

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Interim Report 1983 (draft)

Report for Current Year Due: Interim Report 1984

Final Report Due: Final Report March 1987

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Caribou Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING X SINCE ____

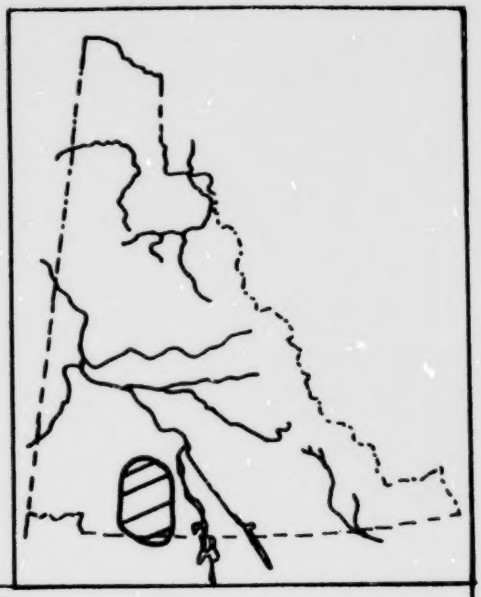
LOCATION: DISTRICT Whitehorse

GMZ 7

Dates of Field Work October 1984

Project Leader R. Farnell

Assistance J. McDonald
D. Larsen



PROJECT TITLE Ibex Caribou Herd Management

PURPOSE (Problem)

Initially four caribou were collared to determine status of herd and feasibility of permit bull season. In light of large scale predator removals slated for the area, an additional four collars were placed on caribou. These will assist further counts designed to determine response of this herd, numbering 80 to 100, to predator control. This information will contribute to overall predator-prey management and research in that area.

OBJECTIVES

1. Relocate radiocollared caribou during rut in October.
2. Conduct composition count during rut.
3. Monitor population fluctuation and composition.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

October - Relocations and aerial composition count

BUDGET (Operational) **YTG:** $5,000.00

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

File Report October 1983

Report for Current Year Due: File Report October 1984

Final Report Due:

BEAR MANAGEMENT

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YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Bear Management

NEW x CONTINUING SINCE

LOCATION: DISTRICT Dawson

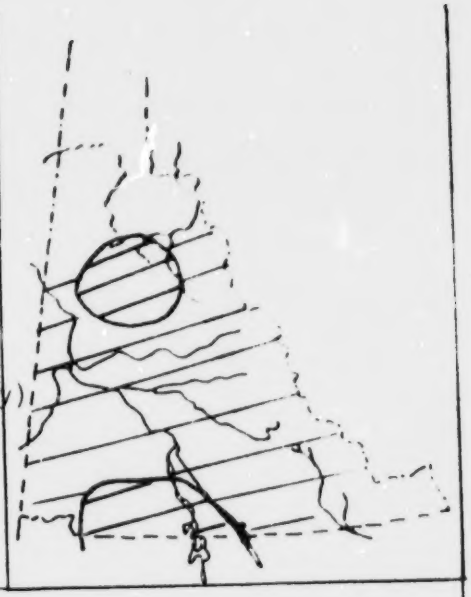
GMZ 2

Dates of Field Work June 15-October 15

Project Leader B. Spreadbury (Univ. of Calgary)
B. Smith (Y.T.G.)

Assistance S. Herrero (Univ. of Calgary)

Volunteers



PROJECT TITLE Female Grizzly Bear Transplant

PURPOSE (Problem)

The transplant of female grizzly bears maybe an effective way to rehabilitate stressed grizzly bear populations in the release area and to remove valuable females from the capture area.

Currently, the homing behaviour and fate of family groups and their offspring are poorly understood and techniques for successful transplants have not been developed.

OBJECTIVES

1. To determine the fate of 4 to 6 grizzly bear family groups transplanted from an area south of Whitehorse to a release site in the vicinity of the Dempster Highway.

2. To determine appropriate techniques for an effective transplant program.

COOPERATING AGENCIES University of Calgary, Yukon Fish and Game Assn.
Government of Canada

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

Four to six grizzly bear family groups will be captured in the eastern portion of ecoregion 6 (Oswald and Senyk 1977) or Game Management Zone 7 in late June 1984 through Supercub survey and helicopter oriented pursuit and capture. These animals will be transported by vehicle to a release site 360 airmiles away, in the Blackstone River valley of the Dempster HIghway. All animals will be released near baits.

These animals will be intensively monitored from the ground and by air using telemetry equipment.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG:

not clear yet

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

-MSc. thesis

Report for Current Year Due:

Final Report Due:

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Bear Management

NEW X CONTINUING ____ SINCE ____

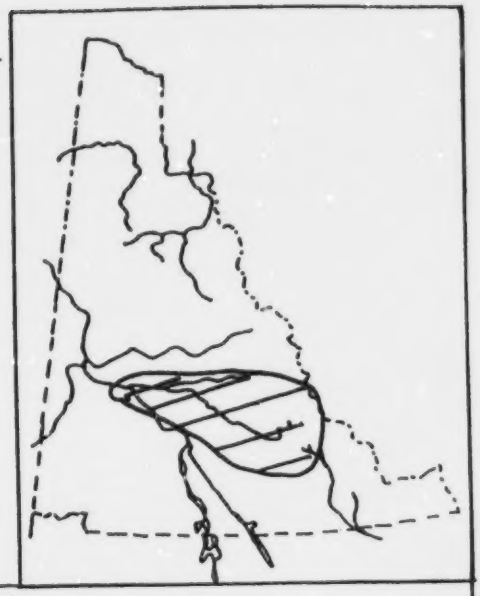
LOCATION: DISTRICT Ross River

GMZ Jct. 4, 8, 10, 11

Dates of Field Work Nat k5-September 15

Project Leader G. MacHutcheon
B. Smith, A. Harestad

Assistance
Y.T.G. Summer Student
Assistant Program



PROJECT TITLE Pelly River Valley Bear Ecology

PURPOSE (Problem)

Yukon and other northern bear studies have focussed on the population ecology of grizzly bears in largely mountainous alpine settings. Currently our understanding of grizzly bears in the larger valleys and of black bears throughout the territory is very limited, too limited for effective scientific management. A better understanding of the population ecology and habitat use of these bears is urgently required.

OBJECTIVES

1. To determine the reproductive parameters and seasonal use of various habitat types by black and grizzly bears in a valleyfloor setting in the southern Yukon.

2. To examine harvest and habitat management of bears in the major river valleys.

3. To examine the overall ecology of bears in a river system including denning behaviour, daily and seasonal movements, home range, population density and food habits.

COOPERATING AGENCIES Simon Fraser University

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

- intensive spring and early summer trapping program to mark and radio collar bears in the Pelly River valley.
- active relocation of radio collared bears to determine habitat use, home range, acitivity and movements.
- periodic close trails of family groups to examine qualitative and quantitative habitat utilization.
- quantify major bear food species through vegetation mapping and determination of percent cover.
- quantification of the current years berry production.
- collection of bear scats to determine food habits
- fall and early winter location of bear dens for future examination.

BUDGET (Operational) **YTG:** $30,000

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Report for Current Year Due: December 31, 1984

Final Report Due:

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Bear Management

NEW X CONTINUING ____ SINCE ____

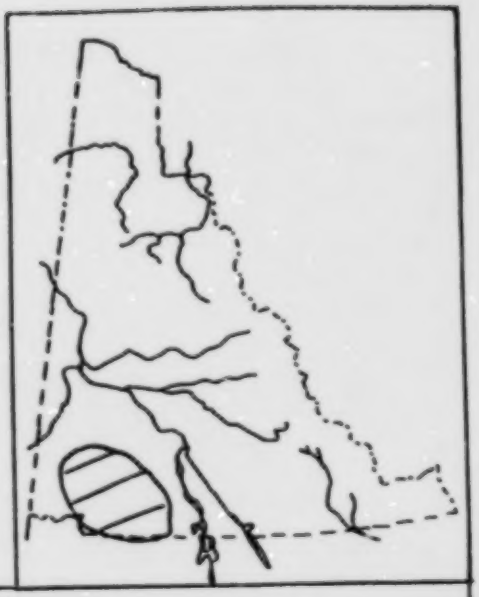
LOCATION: DISTRICT Haines Junction

GMZ 7

Dates of Field Work May 7-June 21

Project Leader B. Smith

Assistance R. Sumanik



PROJECT TITLE Dezadeash Range Bear Population and Predation Ecology.

PURPOSE (Problem)

Knowledge of bear population ecology and predation behaviour are currently inadequate to permit the intensive type of management currently proposed to enhance moose population growth rates in S. Yukon.

OBJECTIVES

1. To determine natality parameters and population density for grizzly and black bears in the Dezadeash Range.
2. To gain an understanding of patterns in spring habitat use in grizzly and black bears in the Dezadeash Range.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

Current focus is on obtaining a large sample of transmitter equipped black and grizzly bears in the Dezadeash Range to permit the intensive monitoring required in 1985.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $40 thousand

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Report for Current Year Due: Dec. 31/84

Final Report Due: end of study

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Bear Management

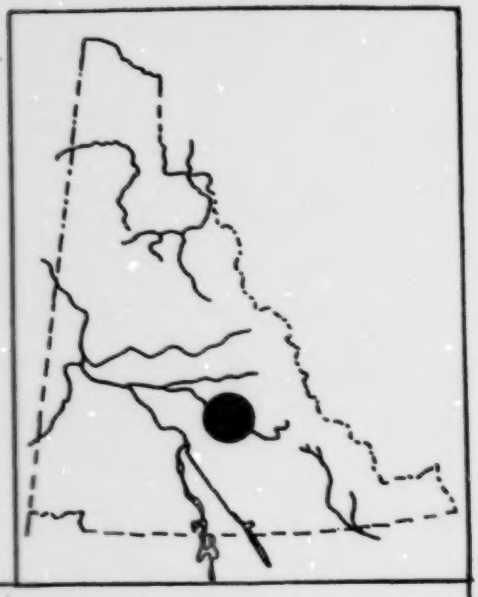
NEW X CONTINUING ____ SINCE ____

LOCATION: DISTRICT Ross River

GMZ 4

Dates of Field Work May 10-Sept. 15

Project Leader B. Smith
R. Fillmore
Assistance D. Lindsey



PROJECT TITLE Faro/Tatchun Bear Conflict Prevention

PURPOSE (Problem)

Land management practices in the Faro and Tatchun River areas have lead to bears being attracted to areas that are heavily used by people and to a high potential for conflict. In the Tatchun and Frenchman areas, camping facilities and recreational areas are being redesigned to minimize bear problems. In the Faro area, a wildlife technician will examine bear movements, feeding ecology and will help the community develop refuse management strategies to reduce bear problems.

OBJECTIVES

1. To determine alternatives to existing land management practices that would reduce the potential for bear/human conflict in these areas.

2. To enhance the awareness of landowners in the Faro area and recreational planners as to aspects of bear biology and management.

COOPERATING AGENCIES Town of Faro, Yukon Park Planning Group

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

a) Habitat analysis - in both areas quantitative vegetation analysis will examine the relative availability of bear foods in a variety of habitat types.

b) Population studies - in the Faro area bears visiting the dumpsite will be marked to enable determination of the size of the bear population using the dumpsite.

c) Education - in the Faro area educational efforts will focus on school children and homeowners.

d) Review - relevant studies in other areas will be reviewed, particularly alternatives to landfill-type refuse management.

e) Active deterrent - deliberate bruising of bears using rubber projectiles may be tested, if refuse can be made not available.

BUDGET (Operational) **YTG:** $9500.

COOPERATORS: The Town of Faro is providing a house and furniture.

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Progress reports every 3 weeks will be sent to supervisors.

Report for Current Year Due: mid-October

Final Report Due: mid-October

FURBEARER MANAGEMENT

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YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Furbearer Management

NEW _____ CONTINUING X SINCE 1982

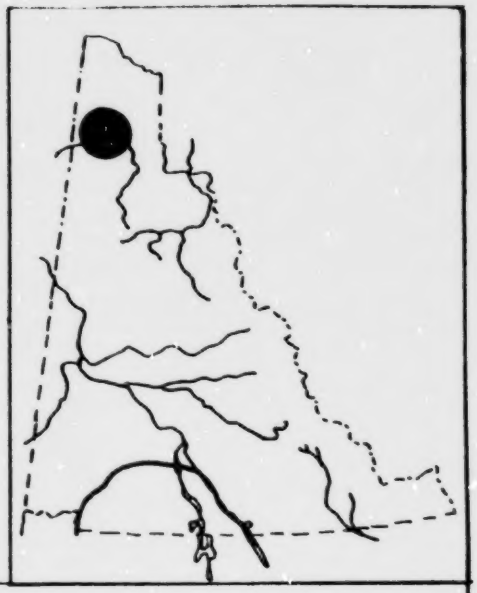
LOCATION: DISTRICT Dawson

GMZ 1

Dates of Field Work May-October

Project Leader Brian Slough

Assistance University of Guelph graduate student and two Old Crow residents.



PROJECT TITLE Muskrat Harvest and Management on Old Crow Flats

PURPOSE (Problem)

The Old Crow muskrat harvest represents 75% of the total Yukon muskrat hravest and is valued at up to $87,000 annually (30,000 pelts). The harvest has declined in recent years, due either to reduced harvest effort or to a population decline. There is an additional problem of harvest methods and pelt handling techniques used, contributing to a low yield and low prices received at the fur auction.

OBJECTIVES

Conduct research on the muskrat population, harvest potential, and harvesting methods.

COOPERATING AGENCIES University of Guelph, Yukon Trappers Association (Special ARDA Grant)

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

1. Census muskrat pushups Old Crow Flats (May).
2. Obtain carcasses from trappers for sex, age and reproduction status determination.
3. Live-trap muskrats on trapped and untrapped areas and in areas of varying densities to follow population levels throughout year (May to freeze-up).
4. Determine pelt primeness throughout fall, winter and spring.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $5 thousand

COOPERATORS: 30.0

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Slough, B.G. 1982 - Preliminary Investigation of the Muskrat Population and Harvest of Old Crow Flats and Northern Yukon. Yukon Wildlife Management Branch 16 pp.

Report for Current Year Due: December, 1984

Final Report Due: 1986

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Furbearer Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING x SINCE 1981

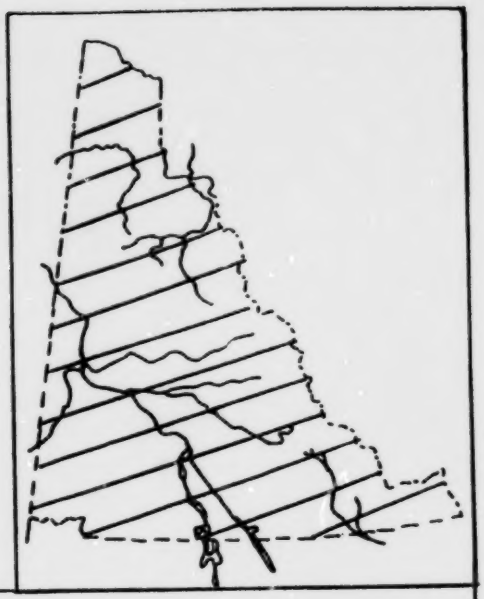
LOCATION: DISTRICT Yukon-wide

GMZ ____

Dates of Field Work Variable

Project Leader Brian Slough

Assistance Various



PROJECT TITLE Furbearer Population Monitoring Studies

PURPOSE (Problem)

The status of furbearer populations and fur resource capability must be known before the management goals of maximum sustained yield and conservation can be realized.

OBJECTIVES

Inventory, index and monitor Yukon's furbearer populations, harvest and biological and ecological parameters relevant to the implementation of optimal harvest strategies.

COOPERATING AGENCIES nil

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

1. Annual trapper questionnaire-Summer 1984.
2. Spring 1984 muskrat pushup survey on Old Crow Flats.
3. Fall 1984 beaver cache surveys.
4. Winter track-counts - Coal River.
5. Biological Population Monitoring Studies
   - Beaver live trapping
   - Examination of beaver pelt measurements for age composition of harvest. Data are collected by the Yukon Trapper's Association.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $15 thousand

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Slough, B.G. 1982 - Trapper Questionnaire Analysis - 18 pp.
Slough, B.G. 1983 - 1981-82 Furbearer Inventory, Habitat Assessment and Trapper Utilization of the North Canal-MacMillan Pass Development Area.
Slough, B.G. and R.H. Jessup, 1984 Furbearer Inventory, Habitat Assessment and Trapper Utilization of the Yukon River Basin. 87pp & maps & appendices.

- Winter track count report for the Frenchman-Tatchun area, 1984.
- Beaver food cache survey, Liard Basin - 1983.
- Muskrat pushups survey, Old Crow Flats, 1982.
- miscellaneous field survey notes.

Report for Current Year Due:

Final Report Due:

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Furbearer Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING X SINCE 1982

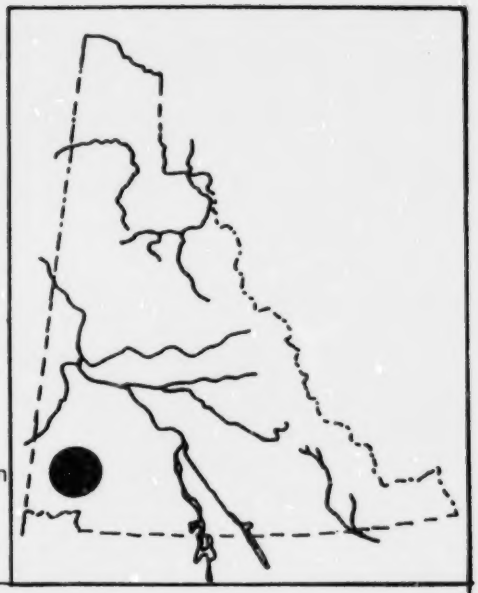
LOCATION: DISTRICT Haines Junction

GMZ 5 and 6

Dates of Field Work Continuous

Project Leader Brian Slough

Assistance Vivian Banci
Casual field technician



PROJECT TITLE Wolverine Ecology and Behaviour

PURPOSE (Problem)

The wolverine is rare throughout it's range in Canada. The Yukon Territory contains a significant remnant of the original wolverine habitat and populations once found in Canada. Very little is known of the ecology and behaviour of the wolverine in Yukon. This information is basic to the development of a comprehensive management plan for the species.

OBJECTIVES

1. Within a defined study area, describe a) food b) habitat requirements c) population characteristics - density, reproduction, sex ratio, age structure, morphology.
2. Determine the population characteristics of wolverines in Yukon.
3. Review wolverine hunting and trapping regulations in Yukon.
4. Develop population monitoring techniques.

COOPERATING AGENCIES Simon Fraser University, World Wildlife Fund, D.I.A.N.D.

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

1. Live trap wolverines until breakup (April 1984).
2. Monitor radio-collared wolverine regularly.
3. Analyse 1983/84 wolverine carcasses (May, 1984).
4. Resume live trapping in winter 1984/85.
5. Collect wolverine carcasses from trappers during 1984/85 season, paying $25/carcasses incentive.

Most animals were 0^+ to 7^+ years of age, oldest animal 9^+. Average litter size 3.2. Males and females can mature at 1^+ many not until 2^+ or later.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $10 thousand

COOPERATORS: $11 thousand

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Slough, B.G. 1982 Status of Wolverine in Yukon. Yukon Wildlife Management Branch. 6pp.
Harestad, A.S. 1983. Ecology and Behavior of wolverine - Progress Report. 11 pp.
Banci, V. 1984. Ecology and Behavior of Wolverine - Progress Report. 42 pp.

Report for Current Year Due: March 1985

Final Report Due: 1985

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Furbearer Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING X SINCE 1978

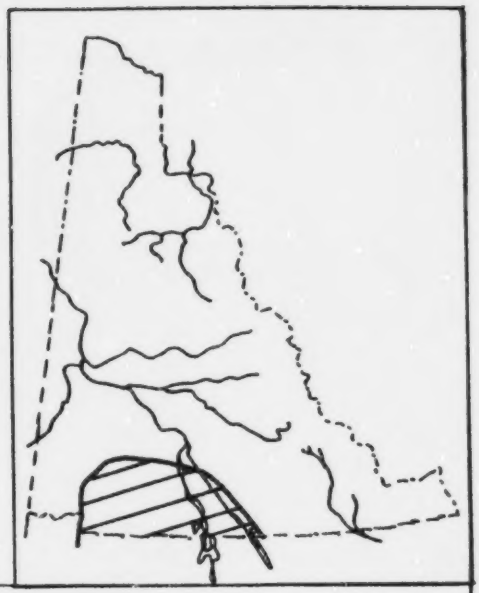
LOCATION: DISTRICT Yukon-wide

GMZ ____

Dates of Field Work October through March

Project Leader Brian Slough

Assistance Harvey Jessup



PROJECT TITLE Marten Management

PURPOSE (Problem)

Historical fur harvest data suggests that current marten harvests in the Territory are approaching the upper limit of a sustainable yield. In addition, marten are very scarce in a large proportion of the southern Yukon, indicating a history of fires and overharvesting. Recolonizing is being prevented by trapping pressure.

OBJECTIVES

1. Develop a comprehensive management plan to ensure the perpetuity of marten in Yukon.
2. Provide the trapper with the necessary management tools to effectively manage marten on his trapline.
3. Reintroduce and protect marten in presently vacant habitats.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

Nil

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

1. Monitor 8 radio-implanted marten which were transplanted to Wheaton River and Takhini Lake.

2. Live-trap 30 to 40 marten from 1 or 2 sites between Teslin and Watson Lake and transplant to sites in the Whitehorse-Haines Junction area. A sample of these will also be radio-collared.

3. Continue trapper education and public relations on trapline management of marten, including conservation in depleted areas.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $13 thousand

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Trapper education material

Archibald, W.R. and R.H. Jessup, 1984. Population Dynamics of the Pine Marten (Marten americana) in the Yukon Territory. Yukon Wildlife Branch. 29pp.

Report for Current Year Due: Progress report on transplants.

Final Report Due:

FUR HARVEST MANAGEMENT

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YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT For Harvest Management

NEW CONTINUING * SINCE 1976

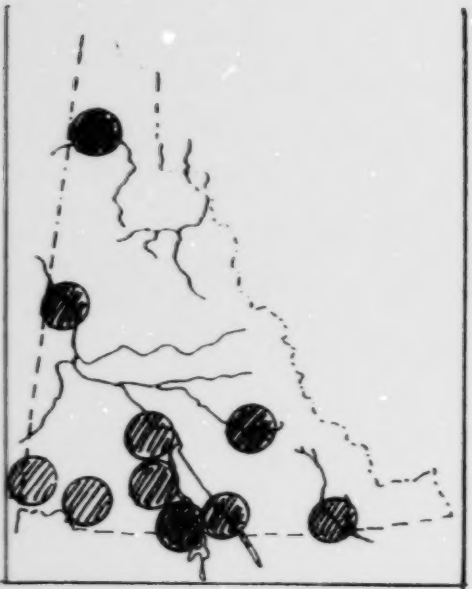
LOCATION DISTRICT Territory-wide

GMz

Dates of Field Work

Project Leader Harvey Jessup

Assistance



PROJECT TITLE Yukon Trapper Community Workshops

PURPOSE (Problem)

Trapper education is a standard tool used nationally to keep trappers abreast with the latest developments in the fur industry, pressure from the humane trapping movement, public awareness and the use of the best-suited traps to trap. More information is available, however, most trappers are not familiar with these and other changes in the fur industry, such as pelt handling techniques.

OBJECTIVES

To provide trappers with the knowledge to effect a biologically sound harvest in the most humane way possible.

To introduce the best methods of pelt preparation in an effort to standardize the techniques.

COOPERATING AGENCIES Yukon Trappers Association

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

1. One day workshops with the local fur councils.
2. More involvement with the junior trapping program.
3. Conduct workshops with the native band councils in cooperation with C. Y. I.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $18,000

COOPERATORS: $1,000

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Annual

Report for Current Year Due: June 1, 1985

Final Report Due:

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Fur Harvest Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING X SINCE____

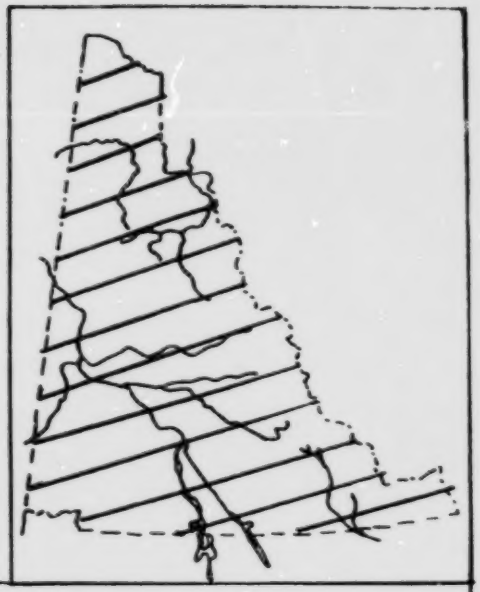
LOCATION: DISTRICT Territory-wide

GMZ ____

Dates of Field Work ____

Project Leader Harvey Jessup

Assistance



PROJECT TITLE Trap Development and Field Testing

PURPOSE (Problem)

The Fur Institute of Canada has been given a mandate to continue with the development of new traps and field test those with potential. As a member of the Fur Institute, this department will be asked to continue with our work in field testing.

OBJECTIVES

Provide the support and the area for field testing traps okayed for further testing by the Fur Institute of Canada.

COOPERATING AGENCIES Yukon Trappers Association

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

Plan for amalgamating our data with the work beginning at Vegreville, Alberta by FIC.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $2 thousand

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Annual Report

Report for Current Year Due:

Final Report Due: Ongoing

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Fur Harvest Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING X SINCE ____

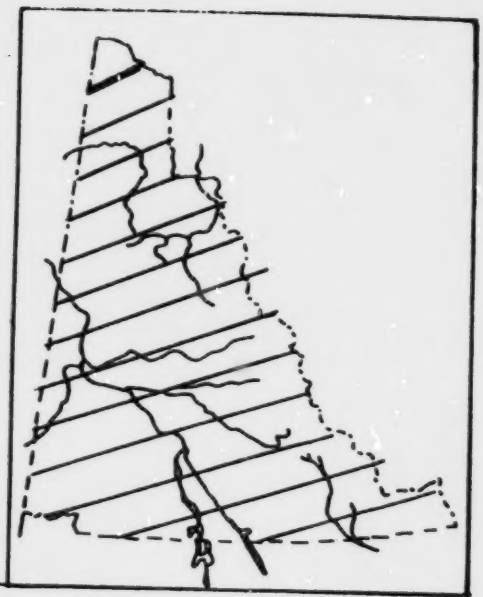
LOCATION: DISTRICT Territory wide

GMZ ____

Dates of Field Work ____

Project Leader Harvey Jessup

Assistance Computer Services
Emily Kotyluk



PROJECT TITLE Fur Harvest Monitoring

PURPOSE (Problem)

A computerized fur harvest data system is required to monitor resource utilization and provide information for trapline administration and enforcement.

OBJECTIVES

Continue to upgrade current system, maintain current trapline files, produce annual reports.

COOPERATING AGENCIES Nil

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

1. Analyse 83-84 data
2. Complete master file
3. Digitize trapline maps

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $2 thousand

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Annual Report

Report for Current Year Due: August 31, 1984

Final Report Due:

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Fur Harvest Management

NEW X CONTINUING ____ SINCE ____

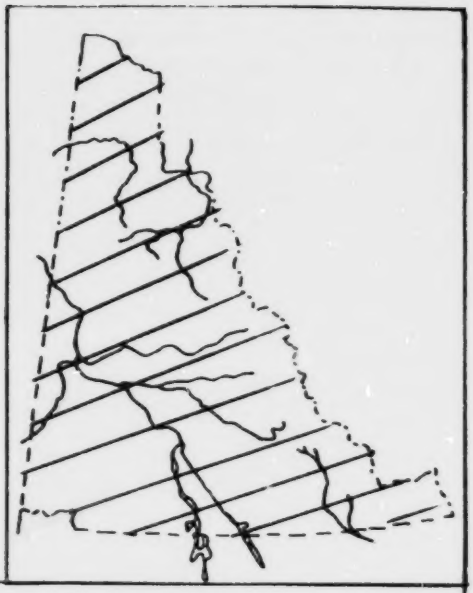
LOCATION: DISTRICT Territory wide

GMZ ____

Dates of Field Work ____

Project Leader Harvey Jessup

Assistance Brian Slough



PROJECT TITLE Public Education

PURPOSE (Problem)

Public awareness of the value of the fur resource and its importance to the Yukon economy is low.

OBJECTIVES

Promote furbearer management, the trapping industry and the non-market value of furbearers to Yukon public, visitors and trappers.

COOPERATING AGENCIES Yukon Trappers Association

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

1. Publish a booklet outlining the importance of the fur industry to the Yukon in the past, present and future; depicting Yukon's furbearers, their biology and distribution; outlining the goals and objectives of furbearer management in Yukon.
2. Develop a visitor information package specifically for large organized tours.
3. Organize public school visits.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $5,000

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Yukon Furbearer Booklet

Report for Current Year Due:

Final Report Due: Ongoing

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT For Harvest Management

NEW _____ CONTINUING X SINCE _____

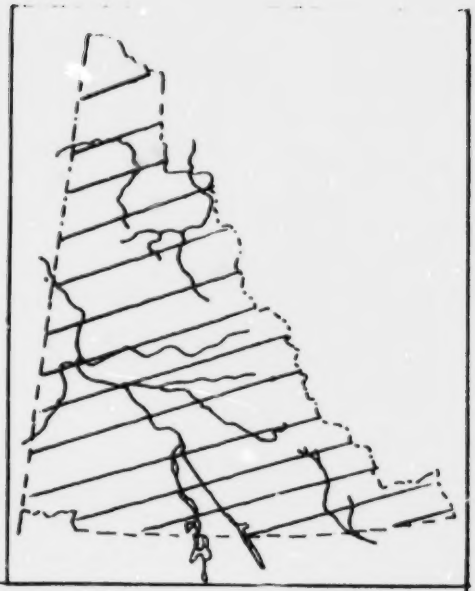
LOCATION: DISTRICT Territory wide

GMZ _____

Dates of Field Work _____

Project Leader Harvey Jessup

Assistance



PROJECT TITLE Wolf Harvest Enhancement

PURPOSE (Problem)

1. There has never been a significant harvest of wolves in the past. Present numbers suggest the populations could withstand an increase in the annual harvest. Trapping is recognized as an effective management tool.

2. The skills required to trap wolves are unique for that species and largely unknown by many in the trapping community.

3. Unstable pelt prices and expensive trapping equipment discourage trappers from investing their time and effort in harvesting wolves.

OBJECTIVES

1. Promote the economic importance of wolves and increase the annual harvest by:

   a. Training trappers in the most effective trapping techniques.

   b. Stabilizing wolf pelt prices by offering a $200.00 cash incentive.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

1. Continue promoting the harvest of wolves through trapper education.
2. Evaluate cash incentive program.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $25,000

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Final Evaluation Report.

Report for Current Year Due:

Final Report Due: August 1, 1984

BIRD MANAGEMENT

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YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Bird Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING X SINCE 1973

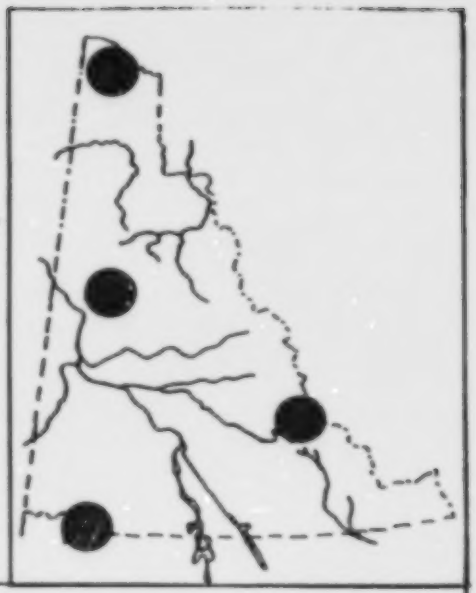
LOCATION: DISTRICT Haines Jct, Watson Lake
Dawson, North Coast

GMZ 6, 10, 2, 1

Dates of Field Work April 25-May 12

Project Leader Dave Mossop

Assistance K. Guenter



PROJECT TITLE Upland game bird annual census and harvest analysis.

PURPOSE (Problem)

Upland game birds provide a major source of hunter recreational opportunity. Trends and density from representative populations are required to monitor the effectiveness of present policies as well as to supply input to management of species dependent on grouse as a food base. There is evidence that the sharp-tailed grouse, a highly attractive but vulnerable game bird has declined in the Yukon.

OBJECTIVES

1. To measure the density trend of 4 reference populations of Willow ptarmigan.
2. To monitor age composition of wintering willow ptarmigan.
3. To monitor sharp-tailed grouse attendance at two dancing grounds in the Donjek River population.
4. To summarize harvest data 1978-1983.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

Three ptarmigan counts will be carried out by total ground search using becking calls and a pointing dog. A two km^2 area will be searched in the Chilkat Pass; the N. Fork Pass on the Dempster Highway and the Cantung Highway in the MacKenzie Mountains. A fourth count will be done by helicopter transect on the N. Slope.

Two sharp-tailed grouse leks equipped with permanent observation blinds will be visited and attending males counted. Incidental observations of movements and habitat use will be made.

Depending on availability from the Y.T.G. computerized data file, a collation of harvest data will be made and reported by game management subzone.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $1.5 thousand

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

1976 Resident Harvest Results - Upland Game Birds and Migratory Birds Y.T.G. Report

Report for Current Year Due: December 31, 1983

Final Report Due: N/A

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Bird Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING x SINCE 1981

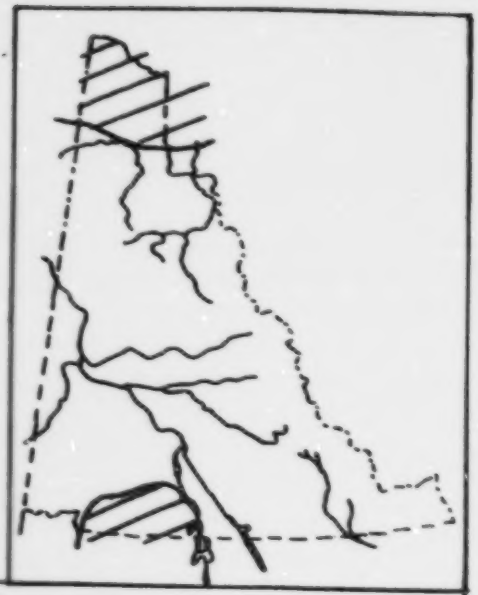
LOCATION: DISTRICT N. Slope

GMZ 1

Dates of Field Work June 20-25

Project Leader D. Mossop

Assistance Student Technician



PROJECT TITLE Gyrfalcon Management - harvest, captive breeding, population research, protective surveillance.

PURPOSE (Problem)

Gyrfalcons continue to have an extremely high market value. Pressures on their populations from a variety of sources must be addressed in management planning. This project addresses a variety of aspects and is translating information gained into functioning management practices including harvest, private breeding, interpretation and realistic enforcement protection.

OBJECTIVES

1. Continue low level harvest, monitoring effect on population.
2. Identify legal and other problems with the trade in rare birds of individuals.
3. To assist Yukon residents in producing captive-bred gyrfalcons for market values.
4. To produce published account of research conducted by U.B.C. researcher on gyrfalcon ecology with Ogilvie Mountain study area.

COOPERATING AGENCIES Polar Continental Shelf, U.B.C.

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

The North Slope population will be monitored in a minimum survey to assess production. Four to six young will be harvested as breeding stock for captive breeding facilities. Close cooperation with jurisdictions involved will be maintained principally through the Western Raptor Committee. U.B.C. Researcher, N. Barichello, will be completing his thesis in the current year and will be writing published accounts of his work on early nesting ecology.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $3.5 thousand

COOPERATORS: $15.0 thousand

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Annual Reports since 1981

Mossop, D., N. Barichello, 1983. Gyrfalcon Management Project.
Part I: 1983 Gyrfalcon
Part 2: The Ogilvie Mountain Gyrfalcon Study.

Report for Current Year Due: December 31, 1983

Final Report Due: N/A

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Bird Management

NEW X CONTINUING ____ SINCE ____

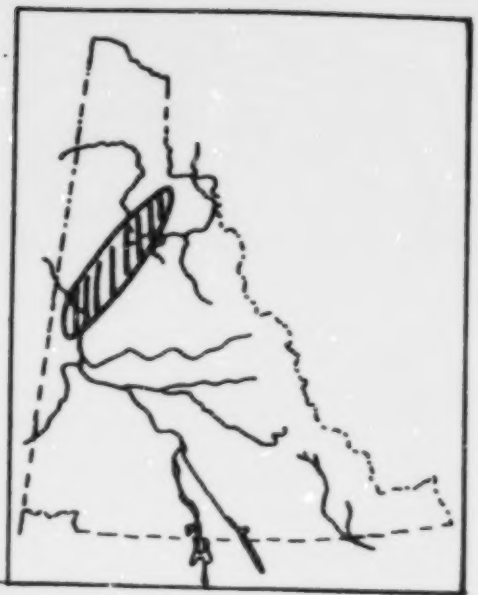
LOCATION: DISTRICT Dawson

GMZ 2-1

Dates of Field Work June 15-August 31

Project Leader D. Mossop

Assistance Contract Technician



PROJECT TITLE Dempster Corridor bird of prey interpretive project.

PURPOSE (Problem)

The Dempster corridor has been completely surveyed for nesting birds of prey. An inordinate density of rare birds was identified. It is probable that these birds have a very high value as interpretive opportunity for tourists. The birds are likely to disappear from the corridor unless specialized management is in place to protect them and their habitat.

OBJECTIVES

1. To assess the potential for interpretive program on birds in the corridor.
2. To begin habitat manipulation to enhance and stabilize viewing opportunity for rare birds of prey.
3. To provide protective surveillance for nesting raptors.
4. To design interpretive material including a brochure, interpretive signs and site specific interpretive philosophy.

COOPERATING AGENCIES Demptster Managament Committee

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

A casual technician will be assigned to the project throughout the summer months to carry out continuous field coverage. In 1983 focus was on assessing public interest and potential. In the current year a questionnaire will continue to interview tourists about anticipation. Experimental nesting structures will be deployed for small owls and great gray owls. One gyrfalcon aerie will be improved. constant surveillance of human activity will be carried out near all vulnerable nesting sites.

An interpretive center will be designed to house seasonal interpretive staff in the corridor. It will serve as a focus for visitors to obtain material and to meet with interpretive personnel. Displays will be designed and format for signs and interpretive trails will be developed. The program will begin to expand to cover all aspects of wildlife viewing opportunity.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $8.0 thousand

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Mossop, D. and R. Hayes. 1978. Birds of Prey and the Dempster Transportation Corridor. Y.T.G. Report.

Guenter, K. and D. Mossop. 1983. Interpretive potential of Wildlife in the Dempster Highway Development Area.

Report for Current Year Due: December 31, 1984

Final Report Due: 1985

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Bird Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING x SINCE 1974

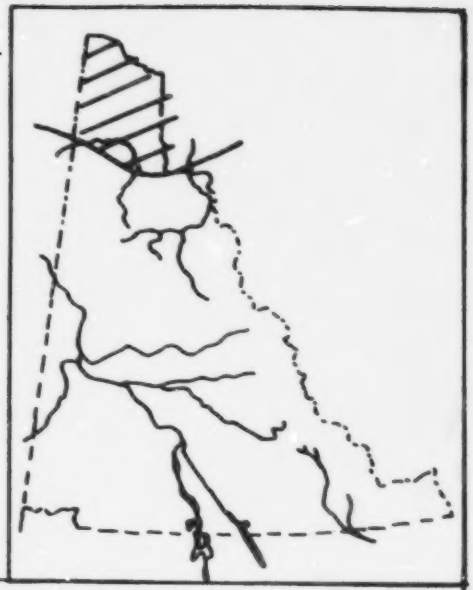
LOCATION: DISTRICT N. Coast

GMZ 1

Dates of Field Work June 20-July 15

Project Leader D. Mossop

Assistance K. Guenter



PROJECT TITLE Raptor population Inventory & Management Planning

PURPOSE (Problem) Basic knowledge about population numbers and productivity is necessary to properly devise management strategies for wildlife as human developments occur. This is particularly true for rarer birds of prey which tend to be sensitive to interference. Inventory of raptor numbers in the coastal drainages is over 50% complete. In the face of possible accelerated petroleum industry developments there, this inventory must be completed and a management plan written for the birds that will be flexible enough to meet most eventualities.

OBJECTIVES

1. To complete inventory of large falcons and other raptors in the coastal drainage.
2. To determine basic ecological associations of the birds and measure their productivity.
3. To produce a management plan for the N. coast raptorial birds.

COOPERATING AGENCIES N.O.G.A.P. (Gov't of Canada)

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

Helicopter surveys will be conducted in areas of the N. slope which have not been previously inventoried. All data will be recorded in standard format and entered on Y.T.G. computer files. Nest sites are described, adult presence determined, nest contents recorded and prey remains collected. This information will be used as part of a comprehensive management plan for raptors of the north slope.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $5.0 thousand

COOPERATORS: $15.0 thousand

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Mossop, D. 1980. N.A. Peregrine Falcon survey. Yukon segment.(in press).

Hayes, R. 1982. Raptor population data storage and retrieval system-Y.T.G. report.

Report for Current Year Due: Due Nov. 1984

Final Report Due: 1986

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Bird Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING x SINCE 1978

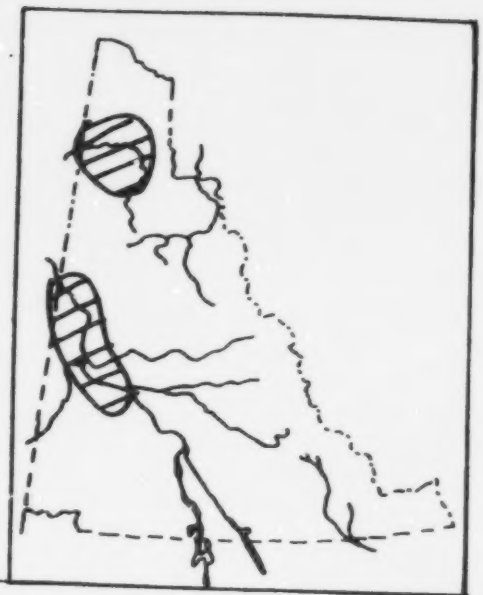
LOCATION: DISTRICT Dawson

GMZ 2 and 3

Dates of Field Work June 1-August 1

Project Leader D. Mossop

Assistance K. Guenter



PROJECT TITLE Peregrine Falcon recovery project a)Anatum (interior) subspecies

PURPOSE (Problem)

The peregrine falcon is an endangered species in Canada and throughout North America. The disappearance of the Peregrine from most of its former range in the 1960's, apparently from pesticide poisoning left a small remnant population in the Yukon River valley. Since 1978 the pppulation has been closely monitored and productivity supplemented with captive bred young. The population is now recovering and efforts continue to bring back former numbers. More recently, the birds have been attracting illegal activities which must be curtailed. As well, pesticide levels have apparently remained high.

OBJECTIVES

1. To monitor the breeding numbers and productivity of the Yukon River peregrine falcon population.
2. To gather information on the prey resource being used by peregrines and its pesticide residue levels.
3. To use fostering techniques to enhance productivity.
4. To carry out surveillance of human activities near peregrine nest sites.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

C.W.S., Western Raptor Committee

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

A casual wildlife technician will be assigned to the Yukon River through June and July. An attempt will be made to visit all nest sites determining whether they are occupied in early June. The exact location of the nest ledges will be determined and various behavioral observations of the adults will be made to support the fostering process which will be carried out in early July. All nests, including those with supplemented production will be monitored through to fledging. At the fostering period, prey remains will be collected from all nest ledges and all young will be banded. Throughout the period, nest surveillance will be conducted utilizing remote camera and other apparatus.

1984 fostering will be conducted only from within the population itself. In this process, parents with large broods will have young removed to be fostered to parents with few young thus enhancing growth and survival. An attempt will also be made to capture adult birds at nests to determine proportion of banded birds in the population and their source. Pesticide data will be taken from any adults captured.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $3.5 thousand

COOPERATORS: $10.0 thousand

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Annual reports since 1978

Mossop, D. and P. Dennison . 1982. Peregrine Falcon Recovery Project. Y.T.G. Report.

Mossop, D. R. Campeau and T. Hayes 1983. Peregrine Falcon Recovery Project 1983. Y.T.G Report.

Report for Current Year Due: November 1983

Final Report Due: N/A

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Bird Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING X SINCE ____

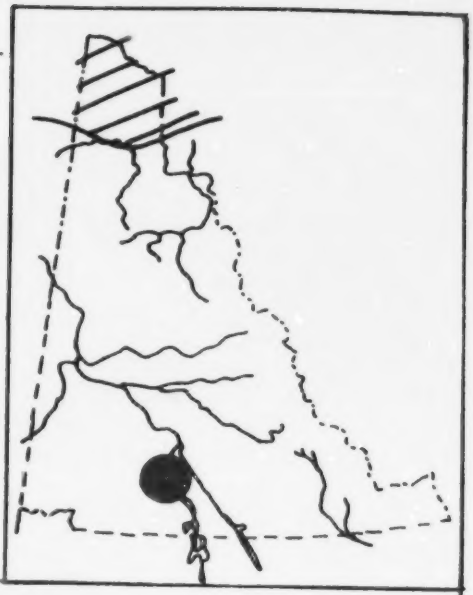
LOCATION: DISTRICT Old Crow/Whitehorse

GMZ 1

Dates of Field Work June 20-25, July 15-20

Project Leader D. Mossop

Assistance K. Guenter



PROJECT TITLE Peregrine Falcon recovery project (b)
Tundra peregrine falcon reintroduction project

PURPOSE (Problem)

The tundra subspecies of peregrine declined sharply in the 1970's on the Yukon N. Slope and disappeared as a breeding species in 1980. Five pairs are being held at Whitehorse in an attempt to breed them in captivity. The reintroduction of the bird will require new techniques of cross-fostering to be developed, as no wild adults are known to exist in the Territory.

OBJECTIVES

1. To successfully raise young tundra peregrine falcons at the Whitehorse facility.

2. Resurvey peregrine habitat on the North Slope and continue cross-fostering experiments begun in 1983.

3. Carry out fostering with gyrfalcon parents at up to 4 nest sites.

COOPERATING AGENCIES Polar Continental Shelf; C.W.S.;McGill University; Yukon Game Farm.

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

A. Breeding facility: During the winter months, one male tundra peregrine from the breeding facility was handled daily and hand fed in an attempt to calm them to the presence of people. This is hoped to enhance his breeding behavior. Pairs will be placed in breeding chambers, in April they will be induced to lay extended clutches and any fertile eggs will be shared between active pairs. The Yukon Game Farm will supply avicultural services as in other years, under contract.

B. Additonal breeding stock: Attempts of obtaining tundra peregrines held in captivity at McGill University have been successful. The additional pairs plus 5 yearlings will be inserted into the breeding effort this spring. One original pair which has shown no signs of breeding will be removed from the project. Up to 5 pairs may be possible in 1984 with 3 pairs perhaps producing fertile eggs.

C. The field portion of the project will continue this year with the selection of gyrfalcon aeries suitable for cross-fostering experiments. A technician will be assigned to the project in order to monitor all activity at the nest sites. He will determine fledging success and behavior after fledging. He will also watch for returning young from previous year's rebase.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $ 24.0 thousand(firm)

COOPERATORS: $12.0 thousand (pending)

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT
Annual reports since 1974

1980 N.A. Peregrine Falcon Survey: Yukon section (in press)

Nossop, D. 1982. Peregrine Falcon Recovery Project. Y.T.G. Report

Nossop, D. Campeau, R., and T. Hayes. 1983. Peregrine Falcon Recovery Project Y.T.G. Report.

Report for Current Year Due: November 1983

Final Report Due: N/A

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Bird Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING _x_ SINCE 1978

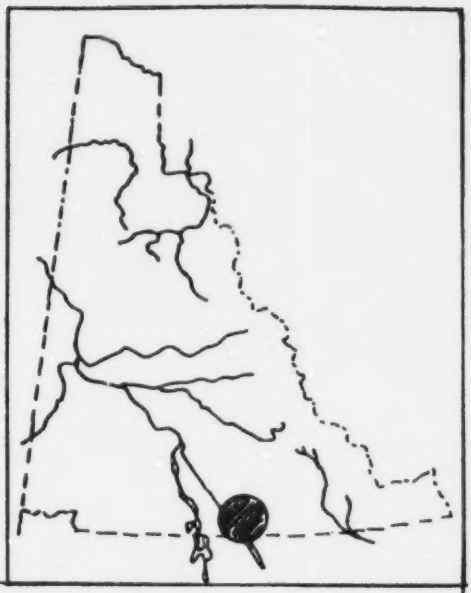
LOCATION: DISTRICT Teslin

GMZ 10

Dates of Field Work August 1-October 31

Project Leader Dave Mossop

Assistance Kerry Guenter



PROJECT TITLE The Nisutlin Delta, its use by Waterfowl and other birds During Fall Staging.

PURPOSE (Problem) The Nisutlin Delta is the most important fall staging area in the southern Yukon and an important waterfowl harvest site. Planning for its management and management of similar less well known fall staging sites is a priority for decision making in the Yukon River Basin.

OBJECTIVES

1. To measure waterfowl use, timing and movement patterns on the area.
2. To determine through banding, the population identity of waterfowl, their migration routes and mortality.

COOPERATING AGENCIES Yukon Fish and Game Association

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

Major write up of the project to date occurred in 1983. A Msc thesis is being prepared currently and reporting through the Yukon River Basin Project is complete (see below).1984 plans call for a banding effort aimed at capturing Canada geese which to date have not been adequately banded. An attempt will be made to establish a large bait station to entice the birds off natural foods. A cannon net will be used for capture.

BUDGET (Operational) YTC: $1.5 thousand

COOPERATORS: volunteer manpower

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Annual reports since 1981

Coleman, T. 1982. Nisutlin Delta project 1982 interim report. Yukon River Basin report.

Mossop, D. and T. Coleman 1984. Factors affecting the fall staging of waterfowl at the Nisutlin Delta, Yukon. Dept. Of Ren. Res. Gov't of Yukon. A Yukon River Basin Project report.

Report for Current Year Due: December 31, 1983

Final Report Due: N/A

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Bird Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING X SINCE 1974

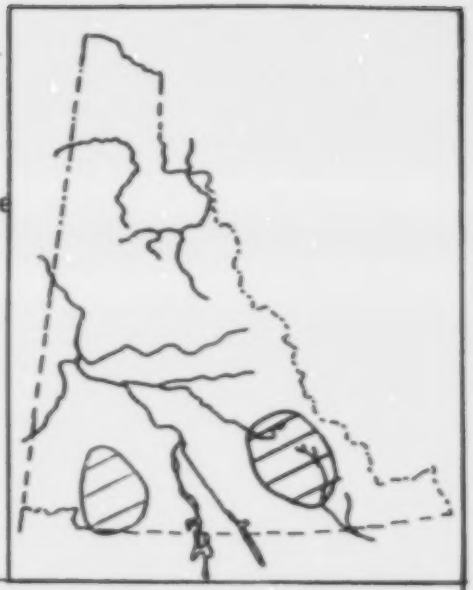
LOCATION: DISTRICT Ross River, Watson Lake ~~Dawson~~

GMZ 4,2, 10

Dates of Field Work May 20-30, July 15-18

Project Leader D. Mossop

Assistance



PROJECT TITLE Wetland inventory and development of Yukon Waterfowl Management Plan.

PURPOSE (Problem)

Project is a cooperative effort of the Yukon Waterfowl Technical Committee members and addresses data needs and management requirements for waterfowl in the Yukon. Initial inventory of wetland areas (80-90% complete) must be followed by basic analysis of duck use, activities occurring and critical components being examined in terms of protection necessary, possible habitat manipulation, etc.

OBJECTIVES

1. Determine numbers and timing of waterfowl use in identified wetlands.
2. To carry out initial cooperative management with Ducks Unlimited (Canada) Ltd.
3. Produce draft of Yukon Waterfowl Management Plan.

COOPERATING AGENCIES C.W.S. , Ducks Unlimited (Canada) Ltd., Northern Biomes

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

New surveys for wetland complexes, especially in the Tintina Trench migration route will be conducted incidentally and other projects. In cooperation with C.W.S. a comprehensive reconnaissance of wetlands throughout the Territory will be given to Ducks Unlimited personnel and management potential will be discussed in terms of a cooperative program. A small duck nest construction project will be coordinated by Northern Biomes Ltd. Erection will take place in the Dezdeash Valley.

BUDGET (Operational) YTG: $1.0 thousand

COOPERATORS: $5.0 thousand

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Dennington, M. and D. Mossop 1982. North Canol Road area wetlands survey 1981-82. C.W.S. Report.

McKelvey, R., M. Dennington, D. Mossop 1982. The status and distribution of Trumpeter swans in the Yukon. Arctic 36(1):76-81.

Report for Current Year Due:

Final Report Due: December, 1983

WOLF MANAGEMENT

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Wolf Inventory/Reduction GMZ 7-9.....81

Wolf Population Inventory: Finlayson Lake Caribou Range

Wolf Lake Caribou Range.....83

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Wolf Management

NEW ____ **CONTINUING** X **SINCE** 1984

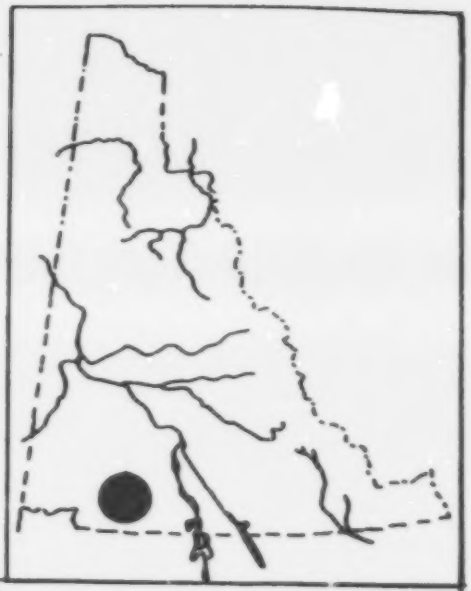
LOCATION: DISTRICT Whitehorse

GMZ 7

Dates of Field Work Nov. - April

Project Leader R. Hayes, N. Barichello

Assistance A. Baer
Graduate Students



PROJECT TITLE

Wolf-Dall Sheep Relationships in the Southern Yukon

PURPOSE (Problem)

The effects of wolf predation on sheep behavior, demography and distribution are currently unknown. The presence of marked wolf populations and relatively dense sheep populations in the coastal mountains allows a unique opportunity to study their predator-prey relationships in an area presently supporting a depressed or declining moose population.

OBJECTIVES

Investigate the predatory relationships of the Primrose Pack over various winter periods to document their selction between moose and sheep prey.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

North American Wild Sheep Foundation

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

- aerially monitor wolf pack activities over a 30 day period Nov 15-Dec. 15 and, a 2 month period Feb 1-April 1, 1985.
- continue to conduct ground studies in the area.
- collect kill specimens, kill site data, scats and monitor ground activities of radioed pack member (4).

SIGNIFICAN RESULTS TO DATE

- over a 2 month period, daily monitoring of a radio-marked pack showed significant depredation on sheep.

BUDGET (Operational) **YTG:** $10,000 (wolf component)

COOPERATORS: 10,000

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

- Wolf-Dall Sheep interrelationships in the Southern Yukon. (August, 1984)

Report for Current Year Due: August 1984

Final Report Due: (1986)

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Wolf Management

NEW ____ CONTINUING X SINCE 1983

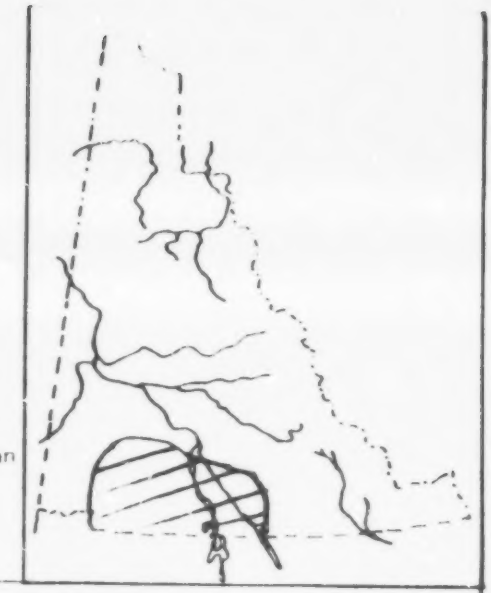
LOCATION: DISTRICT Whitehorse

GMZ 5, 7 and 9

Dates of Field Work September to April

Project Leader R. Hayes - Biologist

Assistance A. Baer - Wildlife Technician



PROJECT TITLE Wolf Inventory Reduction GMZ 7-9

PURPOSE (Problem)

Wolf and moose population data in 1983 and 1984 shows a wolf:moose ratio of one wolf/8-12 moose in GMZ 7. This ratio is well below the ratio of 1/20 that is considered necessary to support stable moose numbers.

Wolf numbers were reduced in GMZ 7 by 40-50 percent in 1984 in an attempt to lower natural mortality on the adult moose population.

OBJECTIVES

1. To continue monitoring wolf numbers and densities in GMZ 7 and 9 and initiate inventories in GMS 5-48 to 5-50.

2. To remove a portion of the wolf population as part of a moose recovery plan.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

- a 15,000 km^2 area , including zone 7 and portions of GMZ 9 and 5 will be surveyed in the winter 1984-85 to census wolf populations.
- wolf reduction will continue in 1984-85 with a target removal of 60-70 percent of existing wolves.

SIGNIFICAN RESULTS TO DATE

Wolf population data has been collected for 2 years. Wolf reduction was initiated in 1984 on the basis of depressed wolf'moose ratios 40-50 percent of GMZ wolves were removed in 1984

BUDGET (Operational) YTG. $39 thousand

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Wolf Population Research and Management Studies in the Yukon Territory Progress Report 1983-84

Report for Current Year Due: August 1984

Final Report Due: 1987

YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Wolf Management

NEW _____ CONTINUING _____ SINCE _____

LOCATION: DISTRICT Ross River-Watson Lake

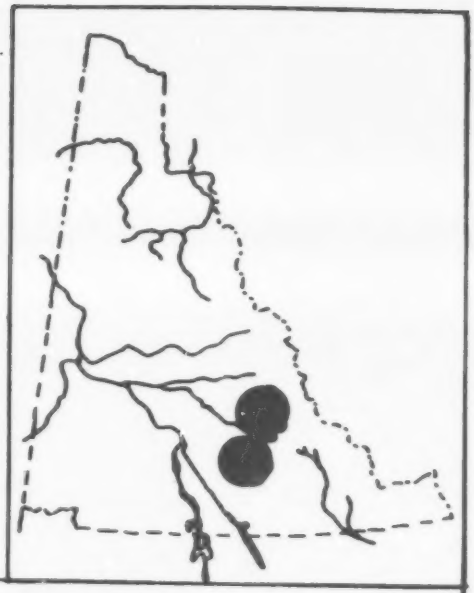
GMZ _____

Dates of Field Work December-March 1985

Project Leader R. Hayes (Wolf Biologist)

Assistance R. Farnell (Caribou Biologist)

A. Baer (Wildlife Technician)



PROJECT TITLE Wolf Population Inventory: Finlayson Lake caribou range
Wolf Lake caribou range

PURPOSE (Problem)

To gain a better understanding of the role of wolf predation on Finlayson caribou, biologist must be able to measure the population effects of three year wolf reduction in the area. Wolf inventories will be carried out in the Finlayson area (treatment area) and, for comparison with a similar ungulate area, the Upper Liard/Wolf River caribou range will be censused concurrently. Density variations between the two areas will be calculated, and the removal effects measured.

OBJECTIVES

1. To survey a sample of wolf populations in a 3000km^2 area of the Finlayson wolf management area and Upper Liard Basin.
2. To document distribution, pack sizes and density.
3. To roughly delineate caribou wintering range in the Upper Liard.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

Two fixed wing aircraft will be deployed to the Upper Liard following fresh snowfall and wolf inventory will be conducted in December 1984. A late winter wolf census will be carried out in the Finlayson removal area to coincide with wolf reduction efforts in late February 1985.

BUDGET (Operational) **YTG:** $8,000

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

Report for Current Year Due: July 1985

Final Report Due:

LABORATORY SERVICES

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YUKON DEPARTMENT of RENEWABLE RESOURCES

WILDLIFE PROJECT Laboratory

NEW ____ CONTINUING X SINCE ____

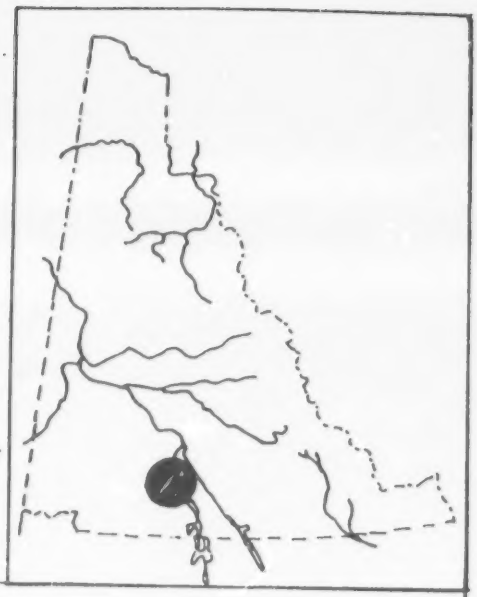
LOCATION: DISTRICT Whitehorse

GMZ N/A

Dates of Field Work N/A

Project Leader Philip Merchant

Assistance 3 month student technical support on specific project basis.



PROJECT TITLE Laboratory and Technical Service

PURPOSE (Problem)

A central organized laboratory is required for the collection of information from hunter kills, for conducting laboratory analysis of specimens and providing technical assistance to examination of specimens for enforcement purposes.

OBJECTIVES

1. To provide the laboratory technical component of specific wildlife management projects.

2. To encourage and foster public participation in and awareness of wildlife management.

COOPERATING AGENCIES

3 month student program - Yukon Dept. of Education

PLANS FOR CURRENT YEAR

a. Age and reproductive analysis of about 100 wolves (control and trapper killed).

b. Age analysis of about 100 wolverines (trapper killed).

c. Collect and compile biological information through hunter submission programs.

d. Process biological specimens collected through the hunter submission program.

e. Develop skills in preparing bird study skin collection.

f. General laboratory maintenance, equipment upkeep and stocking.

g. Assistance to specific projects identified by Chief of Wildlife Management.

BUDGET (Operational) **YTG:**

COOPERATORS:

PUBLICATIONS, REPORT

- data listings to management biologists
- procedures for laboratory projects (internal)

Report for Current Year Due:

Final Report Due:

POOR

QUALITY

ORIGINAL